

PTO/SB/21 (04-07)

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**TRANSMITTAL  
FORM**

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Total Number of Pages in This Submission

3

Application Number

09/915,188

Filing Date

July 25, 2001

First Named Inventor

John D. Dute'

Art Unit

2154

Examiner Name

Jungwon Chang

Attorney Docket Number

1-16437

**ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)**

Fee Transmittal Form



Fee Attached



Amendment/Reply



After Final



Affidavits/declaration(s)



Extension of Time Request



Express Abandonment Request



Information Disclosure Statement



Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)

Reply to Missing Parts/  
Incomplete ApplicationReply to Missing Parts  
under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53

Drawing(s)



Licensing-related Papers



Petition

Petition to Convert to a  
Provisional ApplicationPower of Attorney, Revocation  
Change of Correspondence Address

Terminal Disclaimer



Request for Refund



CD, Number of CD(s) \_\_\_\_\_

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Remarks



After Allowance Communication to TC

Appeal Communication to Board  
of Appeals and InterferencesAppeal Communication to TC  
(Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)

Proprietary Information



Status Letter

Other Enclosure(s) (please identify  
below):

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**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT**

Firm Name

MARSHALL &amp; MELHORN LLC

Signature

Printed name

Stephen G. Kimmet

Date

July 24, 2007

Reg. No.

52,488

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July 24, 2007

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(Name)

Roberta A. Winzeler

(Signature)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

|   |                            |
|---|----------------------------|
| In re Application of: John C. Dute' et al.        | ) Group Art Unit: 2154     |
|   | )                          |
| Serial No.: 09/915,188                            | ) Examiner: Jungwon Chang  |
|   | )                          |
| Filing Date: July 25, 2001                        | ) Attorney Docket: 1-16437 |
|   | )                          |
| For: System, Device and Method for Comprehensive  | )                          |
| Input/Output Interface Between Process or Machine | )                          |
| Transducers and Controlling Device or System      | )                          |

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July 24, 2007

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**REPLY BRIEF**

Honorable Sir:

This is in response to the Examiner's Answer of May 30, 2007 to the Appeal Brief  
filed January 12, 2007.

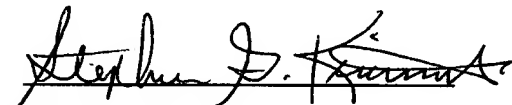
In the Examiner's Answer of May 30, 2007, the Examiner has not responded to Applicants' assertion that the Examiner has based the 35 U.S.C. 112 first paragraph rejections on misquoting Applicants.

Specifically, the Examiner states on page 3, in item 2, that "Applicant(s) has cited **page 3**, lines 4-12, in support of claim limitations associated with "simultaneously" receiving a condition from a sensor and sending commands to an actuator." In addition, this same misquote is utilized by the Examiner on page 4, second paragraph, which is in regard to Applicants' claim limitations that each physical circuit package is electrically connected directly, exclusively, and physically to a single sensor or a single actuator, but not both simultaneously.

Applicants assert that the proper citation is **page 4**, lines 4-12, which supports the above-stated claim limitations. This proper citation is clearly found, for example, in Applicants' Amendment of May 6, 2005 on page 6, second paragraph.

Consequently, Applicants assert that since both McLeish and Sitte do not simultaneously process input/output data, then claims 86-90, which do simultaneously process input/output data, are allowable. A favorable decision to that end is courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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